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United Nations

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

22 January-30 March, 14 May-29 June and 30 July-14 September 2001

General Assembly
Official Records
Fifty-sixth Session
Supplement No. 27 (A/56/27)

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Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

[5 October 2001]

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference on Disarmament submits to the fifty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly its annual report on its 2001 session, together with the pertinent documents and records.

II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

A. 2001 Session of the Conference

2. The Conference was in session from 22 January to 30 March, 14 May to 29 June and 30 July to 14 September 2001. During this period, the Conference held 27 formal plenary meetings, at which Member States as well as non-Member States invited to participate in the discussions outlined their views and recommendations on the various questions before the Conference. The following dignitaries addressed the Conference on Disarmament during its 2001 session: Mr. Igor Ivanov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (CD/PV.864); and Mr. Luvsangin Erdenechuluun, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia (CD/PV.874).

3. The Conference also held 8 informal meetings on its agenda, programme of work, organization and procedures, as well as on specific items of its agenda and other matters.

4. In accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, the following Member States assumed successively the Presidency of the Conference: Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba and Ecuador.[1]

5. The substantive Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament was composed as follows: Mr. Vladimir Petrovsky, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations; Mr. Enrique Román-Morey, Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament (who assumed his functions on 18 December 2000); and Mr. Jerzy Zaleski, Political Affairs Officer (in charge of the Conference on Disarmament).

B. Participants in the Work of the Conference

6. The representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe participated as Member States in the work of the Conference.

[1] See CD/PV.871, p. 8 and CD/PV.880, p. 8-9.

C. Attendance and Participation of States not Members of the Conference

7. In conformity with Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure, the States not members of the Conference listed in the following paragraph attended its plenary meetings.

8. The Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from 41 States not members of the Conference. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure and its decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference invited the following non-Member States to participate in its work: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, the Holy See, Iceland, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Nepal, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Thailand, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay and Zambia.

D. Agenda and Programme of Work for the 2001 Session

9. At its 862nd plenary meeting on 23 January 2001, the Conference adopted its agenda for the 2001 session in conformity with the Rules of Procedure. The agenda (CD/1635) reads as follows:

> "Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2001 session:
>
> 1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
> 2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
> 3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
> 4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.
> 5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.
> 6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.
> 7. Transparency in armaments.
> 8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations."

10. In connection with the adoption of the agenda, the President made the following statement: "It is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda."

11. During the annual session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on the programme of

work. In the course of these consultations, the Presidents put forward some informal proposals related to the programme of work. The Conference did not, however, agree on the programme of work and did not re-establish or establish any mechanism on any of its specific agenda items during the 2001 session.

12. At its 877th plenary meeting on 14 June 2001, the Conference adopted Decision CD/1646, which reads as follows:

> "The Conference on Disarmament, reaffirming its commitment to work intensively towards the approval of a programme of work, using the Amorim Proposal, as contained in document CD/1624, as a basis for further intensified consultations and taking into consideration all relevant proposals:
>
> Decides to appoint Special Coordinators on the Review of its Agenda, the Expansion of its Membership and its Improved and Effective Functioning. These Special Coordinators, in discharging their duties and functions, will take into account all proposals and views, as well as future initiatives. The Conference requests these Special Coordinators to report to it before the conclusion of the 2001 session."

13. At its 878th plenary meeting on 21 June 2001, the Conference appointed Ambassador Günther Seibert of Germany as Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference, Ambassador Petko Draganov of Bulgaria as Special Coordinator on Expansion of the Membership of the Conference, and Ambassador Prasad Kariyawasam of Sri Lanka as Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference.

14. With regard to the programme of work, the Conference had before it the following official document: CD/1644, dated 30 May 2001, entitled "Letter dated 29 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Russian proposals concerning the programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament".

15. Also, during plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations and groups of delegations expressed their views on this issue. These are duly reflected in the plenary records.

E. Expansion of the Membership of the Conference

16. The importance of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings.

17. Requests for membership had been received, since 1982, from the following 22 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, the Philippines, Azerbaijan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan and Estonia.

18. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of the Membership of the Conference, Ambassador Petko Draganov of Bulgaria, held bilateral consultations with a number of members and participating non-members of the Conference, and a report was presented on his behalf at the 885th plenary meeting on 30 August 2001 (CD/PV.885).

F. Review of the Agenda of the Conference

19. The importance of the review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings.

20. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference, Ambassador Günther Seibert of Germany, held bilateral consultations with a number of members and participating non-members of the Conference, as well as an informal open-ended meeting on 23 August 2001, and presented his report in a statement at the 885th plenary meeting on 30 August 2001 (CD/PV.885).

G. Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference

21. The importance of the improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings.

22. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference, Ambassador Prasad Kariyawasam of Sri Lanka, held bilateral consultations with a number of members and participating non-members of the Conference, as well as two informal open-ended meetings on 2 and 21 August 2001, and presented his report in a statement at the 884th plenary meeting on 28 August 2001 (CD/PV.884).

H. Communications from Non-Governmental Organizations

23. In accordance with Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure, a list of all communications from non-governmental organizations and persons was circulated to the Conference (document CD/NGC/35).

III. SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE DURING ITS 2001 SESSION

24. The substantive work of the Conference during its 2001 session was based on its agenda. The list of documents issued by the Conference, as well as the texts of those documents, are included as Appendix I to this report. An index of the verbatim records, by country and subject, listing the statements made by delegations during 2001, and the verbatim records of the meetings of the Conference, are attached as Appendix II to the report.

25. The Conference had before it a letter dated 4 January 2001 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (CD/1633) transmitting all the resolutions and a decision dealing with or related to disarmament and international security adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session in 2000, including those making specific reference to the Conference on Disarmament:

55/31 "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (operative paragraphs 2, 4 and 5)

55/32 "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (operative paragraphs 5, 6 and 8)

55/33 C "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda" (operative paragraphs 3 and 4)

55/33 O "Regional disarmament" (operative paragraph 1)

55/33 P "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels" (operative paragraph 2)

55/33 R "A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons" (operative paragraphs 3 (b) and (c))

55/33 T "Nuclear Disarmament" (operative paragraphs 10, 11, 14 and 15)

55/33 U "Transparency in armaments" (operative paragraphs 5 (b) and 7)

55/33 Y "The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled 'Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament', an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices" (operative paragraphs 1 and 2)

55/34 G "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (operative paragraphs 1 and 2)

55/35 B "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (operative paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7)

55/35 C "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (operative paragraph 2)

26. At the 862nd plenary meeting on 23 January 2001, the Secretary-General of the Conference and Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General conveyed to the Conference a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the opening of the 2001 session (CD/PV.862).

27. Mr. Jayantha Dhanapala, Under Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, attended the 862nd and 874th plenary meetings held on 23 January 2001 and 23 May 2001, respectively.

A. Cessation of the Nuclear Arms Race and Nuclear Disarmament

28. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item, including on nuclear disarmament and on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

29. The following document dealing with this item was submitted to the Conference: CD/1644, dated 30 May 2001, entitled "Letter dated 29 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the President

of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Russian proposals concerning the programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament".

B. Prevention of Nuclear War, including All Related Matters

30. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, and these are recorded in plenary records, previous annual reports of the Conference (in particular paragraphs 62-71 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173)), related official documents and working papers.

C. Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

31. The following documents dealing with this item were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1644, dated 30 May 2001, entitled "Letter dated 29 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Russian proposals concerning the programme of work of the Conference on Disarmament";

(b) CD/1645, dated 6 June 2001, entitled "Letter dated 5 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of China addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a working paper entitled 'Possible Elements of the Future International Legal Instrument on the Prevention of the Weaponization of Outer Space'".

32. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

D. Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States Against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons

33. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

E. New Types of Weapons of Mass Destruction and New Systems of Such Weapons; Radiological Weapons

34. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, and these are recorded in plenary records, previous annual reports of the Conference (in particular paragraphs 79-82 of the 1992 report of the Conference to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173)), related official documents and working papers.

F. Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament

35. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, and these are recorded in plenary records, previous annual reports of the Conference (in particular paragraphs 83-89 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173)), related official documents and working papers.

36. During plenary meetings of the Conference, a number of delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the issue of anti-personnel landmines, the detailed descriptions of which are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

37. The following documents dealing with the issue of anti-personnel landmines were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1638, dated 2 February 2001, entitled "Letter dated 22 January 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Bulgaria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a statement made on 11 January 2001 by the Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Defence at a meeting with Military And Defence Attachés";

(b) CD/1639, dated 7 February 2001, entitled "Letter dated 2 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey and the Permanent Representative of Georgia addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the Joint Statement made by the Republic of Turkey and Georgia on the Agreement signed on 29 January 2001 in Ankara concerning the establishment of a bilateral regime for keeping their common border free from anti-personnel mines and preventing their use for border protection purposes in the future";

(c) CD/1643, dated 30 April 2001, entitled "Letter dated 19 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Bulgaria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a declaration of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs released on 12 April 2001 by the Foreign Ministry Spokesman's Office".

G. Transparency in Armaments

38. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

H. Consideration of Other Areas Dealing with the Cessation of the Arms Race and Disarmament and Other Relevant Measures

39. During its 2001 session, the Conference also had before it the following documents:

(a) CD/1628, dated 18 October 2000, entitled "Letter dated 18 October 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of a statement by the

official representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation made on 12 October 2000 in connection with official document CD/1625 circulated by the delegation of the United States of America";

(b) CD/1629, dated 15 November 2000, entitled "Letter dated 14 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of a statement by the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir V. Putin, dated 13 November 2000, conveying new initiatives in the field of the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms (START) and the limitation of anti-ballistic missile systems (ABM)";

(c) CD/1630, dated 24 November 2000, entitled "Letter dated 23 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of a statement by the President of the Russian Federation dated 19 November 2000 on the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe";

(d) CD/1631, dated 4 December 2000, entitled "Letter dated 29 November 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the Brasília Declaration of the Regional Preparatory Meeting of the Latin America and the Caribbean States for the 2001 United Nations Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects adopted in Brazil on 24 November 2000";

(e) CD/1632, dated 29 December 2000, entitled "Letter dated 27 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation and the Permanent Representatives of China, France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of a statement concerning security assurances in connection with Mongolia's nuclear-weapon-free status";

(f) CD/1634, dated 22 January 2001, entitled "Letter dated 22 January 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation and the Permanent Representative of Canada to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the English, French and Russian texts of the Joint Statement of the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Sphere of Strategic Stability";

(g) CD/1636, dated 24 January 2001, entitled "Letter dated 23 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mongolia addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement of the Government of Mongolia issued on 6 October 2000 in connection with security assurances provided to Mongolia by the five nuclear-weapon States";

(h) CD/1637, dated 31 January 2001, entitled "Letter dated 25 January 2001 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a media statement issued on 17 January 2001 by the South African Police Service on the destruction of surplus and confiscated firearms";

(i) CD/1640, dated 15 February 2001, entitled "Letter dated 12 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation and the

Permanent Representative of the United States to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Russian and English texts of a Memorandum of Understanding on Notifications of Missile Launches signed in Brussels on 16 December 2000 by United States Secretary of States Madeleine K. Albright and Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov";

(j) CD/1641, dated 1 March 2001, entitled "Letter dated 28 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the outcome of the Second International Working Meeting of Experts on a Global Control System";

(k) CD/1642, dated 15 March 2001, entitled "Letter dated 14 March 2001 from the Permanent Representatives of France and Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the English and French texts of the Chair's Summary prepared for delegations participating in the Franco-Swiss Workshop on Traceability of Small Arms and Light Weapons: Tracing, Marking and Record-Keeping, held in Geneva on 12 and 13 March 2001";

(l) CD/1647, dated 19 June 2001, entitled "Letter dated 15 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the statement of the official representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the conclusion of the inspections conducted under the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles";

(m) CD/1648, dated 9 August 2001, entitled "Letter dated 8 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the signing of the START Treaty";

(n) CD/1649, dated 15 August 2001, entitled "Letter dated 14 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation and the Permanent Representative of China to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Russian and Chinese texts of the Treaty of Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China as well as the Moscow Joint Statement of the Heads of State of the Russian Federation and China on 16 July 2001";

(o) CD/1650, dated 12 September 2001, entitled "Letter dated 10 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the English and Russian texts of the Final Memorandum of the International Conference 'XXI Century — Towards a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World' held on 29-31 August 2001 in Almaty, Kazakhstan";

(p) CD/1651, dated 13 September 2001, entitled "Letter dated 12 September 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Romania addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the texts of the statements

by the President of Romania, Mr. Ion Iliescu, and the Prime Minister of Romania, Mr. Adrian Nastase, as well as the press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, on terrorist attacks in the United States of America";

(q) CD/1652, dated 27 September 2001, entitled "Note verbale dated 24 September 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Chile addressed to the Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of a communiqué issued by the Rio Group on the Terrorist Attacks in the United States of America".

I. Consideration and Adoption of the Annual Report of the Conference and Any Other Report as Appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations

40. To promote substantive progress during its 2002 session, the Conference requested the current President and the incoming President to conduct appropriate consultations during the intersessional period and make recommendations, if possible, that could help to commence early work on various agenda items, recognizing the support of the Conference for CD/1624 as a basis for further intensified consultations. These consultations shall, inter alia, take into account proposals and views presented and discussions held in the 2001 session.

41. The Conference on Disarmament took note of the reports of the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of Membership of the Conference on Disarmament, and the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament. While agreeing that priority should be given to pursue substantive work, the Conference recommended that Special Coordinators on these issues be re-appointed as early as possible in its 2002 session.

42. The Conference decided that the dates for its 2002 session would be:

First part: 21 January-29 March 2002

Second part: 13 May-28 June 2002

Third part: 29 July-13 September 2002

43. The annual report to the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as adopted by the Conference on 13 September 2001, is transmitted by the President on behalf of the Conference on Disarmament.

Roberto Betancourt Ruales
Ecuador
President of the Conference

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